2. Rajasthan Atomic Power Station—35.49 P/kwh.

3. Madras Atomic Power Station 42.01 P/kwh.

Supply to consumers including industries is effected by respective State Electricity Boards.

(b) The percentage increase in rate of sale of electricity from nuclear power stations during the Sixth Five-Year Plan is 64% for Tarapur Atomic Power Station and 67 per cent for Rajasthan Atomic Power Station.

Deforestation due to mining operations

938. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to assess the impact of mining operation on forests;

(b) if so, to what extent forest wealth has been denuded in the States where mining operation and exploration has been taken place; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN): (a) to (c) A study to assess the impact of mining on forest lands of the country is not available. With the enforcement of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, with effect from 25-10-1980, diversion of forest land to non-forest use, including mining operations, requires prior approval of the Central Government. Each proposal for mining activity in forest lands is examined carefully, for its impact on forest conservation, and if diversion of forest area is approved, necessary safeguards are prescribed to ensure that such area is reclaimed after the mining is over and forest cover restored. In addition, compensatory afforestation is insisted on at the cost of the mining project.

New forest policy

993. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a new Forest Policy; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN): (a) and (b) The revision of the existing National Forest Policy is under the consideration of Government.

Deforestation in North Eastern sector

940. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the eco-system in the North-Eastern Region of the country is undergoing a rapid change due to large-scale deforestation;

(b) what are the names of the States and Union Territories of this Region where deforestation has taken place on an alarming scale;

(c) whether the Central Law on Forest has been effective in this area; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN): (a) Deforestation is occurring in the North-Eastern region of the country as in other areas due to various causes including shifting cultivation, population pressure, and illicit felling of trees. In hilly areas, deforestation has serious adverse effiects on the eco-system.

(b) All the States and Union Territories of the North-Eastern Region namely, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram are affected by this deforestation.

(c) and (d) In the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura where separate laws have been enacted, the Indian Forests Act (Act 16 of 1927) is not applicable. Shifting Cultivation is governed by separate local rules and regulations. The Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980 under which prior approval of the Central Government is needed for diversion of forest land to non-forest use is applicable to and effective in the States and Union Territories of the North-Eastern Region.

Destabilisation of third world nations

941. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Gen. Vernon Walters (Retd.) has formed an international terrorists organisation including Sikh World Organisation estabilise the democratic socialistic nations of the third world countries; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Setting up of Central Administrative Tribunal

942. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Quesion 1269 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th March, 1985 and state:

(a) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal has since been set up: and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) A notification under section 4(1) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 establishing the Central Administrative Tribunal with effect from 2nd September, 1985 has been issued. The Central Administrative Tribunal with a Principal Bench and additional Benches is expected to start functioning from that date.

(b) The Principal Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal will be located at New Delhi. Efforts are being made to locate Additional Benches of the Tribunal at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Nagpur, Allahabad and Gauhati.

Political parties in league with tribal National Volunteers

943. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the national and regional political parties who are in league with the Tribal National Volunteers in Tripura; and

(b) what is the report of the State Home Department of Tripura in this regard?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) No report of any national or regional political party being in league with the Tribal National Volunteers in Tripura has come to notice.

Steps to increase the efficiency of regional passport offices

944. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what measures Government propose to take to increase the efficiency of the regional passport offices and to minimise red-tapism in the issuance of passports during the current year?